

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-20, and for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document. Responsive to the Office Action mailed on July 14, 2004 in the above-referenced application, Applicant respectfully requests amendment of the above-identified application in the manner identified above and that the patent be granted in view of the following remarks. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Present Status of Application

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-20 are allowed. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in claims 2 and 4. Insofar as the Examiner has indicated that the application is in condition for allowance except for the objections to the drawings, prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*.

In this paper, new figures 13-17 are added showing features of the invention specified in claims 2 and 4. The specification is amended accordingly, whereby numerical references are provided corresponding to those shown in new figures 13-17. Specifically, claim 2 recites using HDP-CVD to form a conformal second oxide layer (1310) on the remaining first oxide layer (410') and the surface of the trench (310); forming a conformal second nitride layer (1320) on the second oxide layer (1310); removing part of the second nitride layer (1320) to cause the second nitride layer (1320) to be lower than a top surface of the substrate (200); and using a BOE solution to remove the second nitride layer (1320) and part of the second oxide layer (1310), thus forming a remaining second oxide layer (1310') on the remaining first oxide layer (410'). Accordingly, the aspect ratio of the trench can be further reduced.

In addition, claim 4 recites using HDP-CVD to form a conformal second oxide layer (1310) on the remaining first oxide layer (410') and the surface of the trench (310); forming a conformal second nitride layer (1320) on the second oxide layer (1310); forming a second photoresist layer (1410) in part of the trench (310) to cover part of the second nitride layer (1320), wherein the second photoresist layer (1410) is lower than a top surface of the substrate (200); using the

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second photoresist layer (1410) as a mask, removing part of the second nitride layer (1320); removing the second photoresist layer (1410); and using the BOE solution to remove the second nitride layer (1320) and part of the second oxide layer (1310), thus forming a remaining second oxide layer (1310') on the remaining first oxide layer (410'). Accordingly, the aspect ratio of the trench can be further reduced.

No new matter has been introduced by the new figures or amendments to the specification.

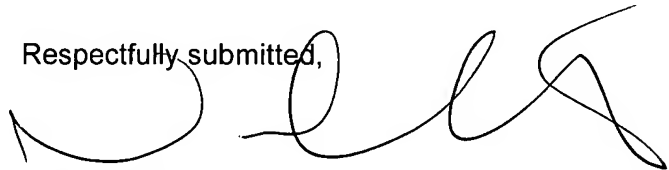
Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that the application is in condition for allowance except for the objections to the drawings. Insofar as this paper has added new drawings showing features of the invention specified in claims 2 and 4, it is Applicant's belief that these objections are overcome.

Conclusion

The Applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests so.

Respectfully submitted,



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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached three (3) sheets of drawings include new figures 13-17. Replacement Sheet 1 replaces the original sheet for Figure 12 with a sheet showing original Figure 12 and new Figure 13, while Replacement Sheet 2 shows new Figures 14-15 and Replacement Sheet 3 shows new Figures 16-17.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (3)